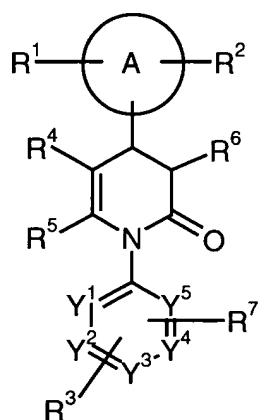


## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound ~~Compounds~~ of the general formula (I)



wherein

A represents an aryl or heteroaryl ring,

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> independently from each other represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano,

trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy or trifluoromethoxy, wherein

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy can be further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy,

R<sup>4</sup> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenoxycarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-cycloalkylaminocarbonyl, N-(heterocyclyl)-aminocarbonyl or cyano, wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl can be substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, hydroxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, amino, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino, phenyl, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl, and wherein phenyl can be further substituted with halogen and wherein N-(heterocyclyl)-aminocarbonyl can be further substituted with C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl or benzyl,

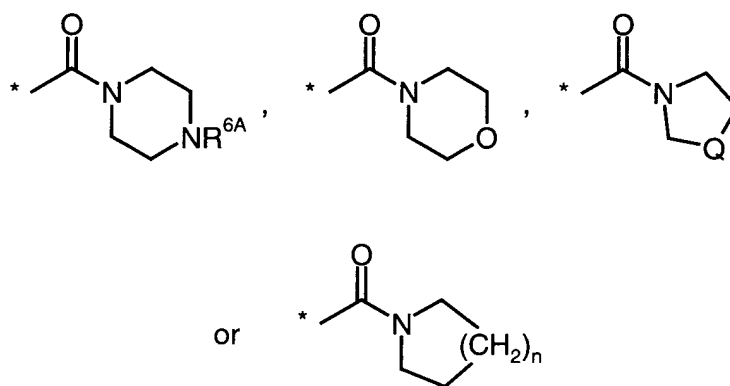
R<sup>5</sup> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,

R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen, cyano, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylaminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, N-aryl-N-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenoxycarbonyl or aryloxycarbonyl, wherein mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, arylamino-carbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl can be substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, benzyloxy, tri-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl)-silyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyloxy, hydroxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, amino, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-

C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-cycloalkylaminocarbonyl, heterocyclylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino, phenyl, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl, and wherein mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl can be further substituted with hydroxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy,

or

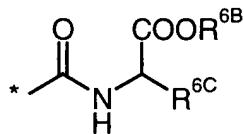
R<sup>6</sup> represents a moiety of the formula



wherein R<sup>6A</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, Q represents O or S, and n represents an integer of 1 or 2,

or

R<sup>6</sup> represents a moiety of the formula



wherein R<sup>6B</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, and R<sup>6C</sup> is an amino acid side chain,

R<sup>7</sup> represents hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy or trifluoromethoxy, wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy can be further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy,

and

Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup>, Y<sup>4</sup> and Y<sup>5</sup> independently from each other represent CH or N, wherein the ring contains either 0, 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms,

or a salt thereof ~~and their salts, hydrates and/or solvates, and their tautomeric forms~~ .

2. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according to Claim 1, wherein

A represents an aryl or heteroaryl ring,

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  independently from each other represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy or trifluoromethoxy, wherein  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl and  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy can be further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,

$R^4$  represents  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl or cyano, wherein  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl can be substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, hydroxycarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl, amino, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylcarbonylamino and heteroaryl,

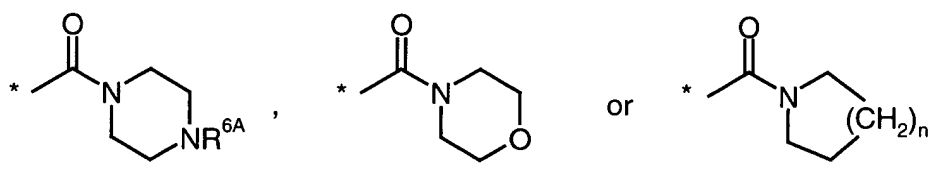
$R^5$  represents  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,

$R^6$  represents hydrogen, cyano, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl or  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl, wherein mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl and  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl can be substituted with one to three

identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, hydroxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, amino, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino, phenyl and heteroaryl,

or

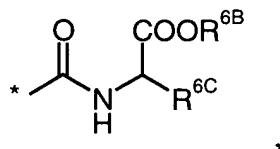
R<sup>6</sup> represents a moiety of the formula



wherein R<sup>6A</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, and n represents an integer of 1 or 2,

or

R<sup>6</sup> represents a moiety of the formula



wherein R<sup>6B</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, and R<sup>6C</sup> is an amino acid side chain,

R<sup>7</sup> represents hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy or trifluoromethoxy, wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy can be further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of hydroxy and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy,

and

Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup>, Y<sup>4</sup> and Y<sup>5</sup> independently from each other represent CH or N, wherein the ring contains either 0, 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms.

3. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein

A represents an aryl ring,

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> independently from each other represent hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro, cyano, methyl, ethyl, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy,

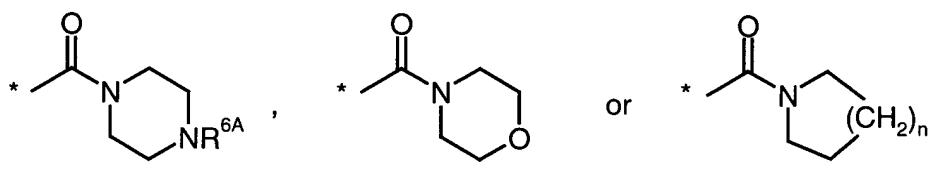
$R^4$  represents  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl or cyano, wherein  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl and  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl can be substituted with one to two identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, methoxy, hydroxycarbonyl, methoxycarbonyl, amino, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino,

$R^5$  represents methyl or ethyl,

$R^6$  represents hydrogen, cyano, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl or  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl,

or

$R^6$  represents a moiety of the formula

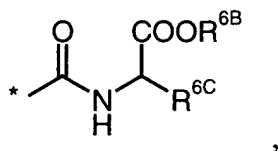


wherein  $R^{6A}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl and ethyl, and  $n$  represents an integer of 1 or 2,

or



R<sup>6</sup> represents a moiety of the formula



wherein R<sup>6B</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl and ethyl, and  
R<sup>6C</sup> is an amino acid side chain,

R<sup>7</sup> represents hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, methyl  
or ethyl,

and

Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup>, Y<sup>4</sup> and Y<sup>5</sup> each represent CH.

4. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according  
to Claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein

A represents a phenyl ring,

R<sup>1</sup> represents hydrogen or methyl,

R<sup>2</sup> represents cyano, bromo or nitro,

R<sup>3</sup> represents hydrogen,

R<sup>4</sup> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl or cyano, wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl can be substituted with hydroxycarbonyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl,

R<sup>5</sup> represents methyl,

R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen, cyano, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl,

R<sup>7</sup> represents trifluoromethyl or nitro,

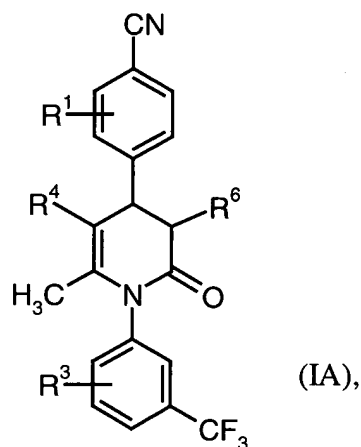
and

Y<sup>1</sup>, Y<sup>2</sup>, Y<sup>3</sup>, Y<sup>4</sup> and Y<sup>5</sup> each represent CH.

5. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according to claim 1 ~~at least one of Claims 1 to 4~~, wherein A is phenyl.
6. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according to claim 1 ~~at least one of Claims 1 to 5~~, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen.
7. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according to claim 1 ~~at least one of Claims 1 to 6~~, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is cyano.
8. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according to claim 1 ~~at least one of Claims 1 to 7~~, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen.
9. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according to claim 1 ~~at least one of Claims 1 to 8~~, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl or cyano.
10. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according to claim 1 ~~at least one of Claims 1 to 9~~, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is methyl.
11. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according to claim 1 ~~at least one of Claims 1 to 10~~, wherein R<sup>6</sup> is hydrogen, cyano, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di-methyl- or -ethylaminocarbonyl, methoxycarbonyl or ethoxycarbonyl.

12. (Currently Amended) The compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (I) according to claim 1 ~~at least one of Claims 1 to 11~~, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is trifluoromethyl or nitro.

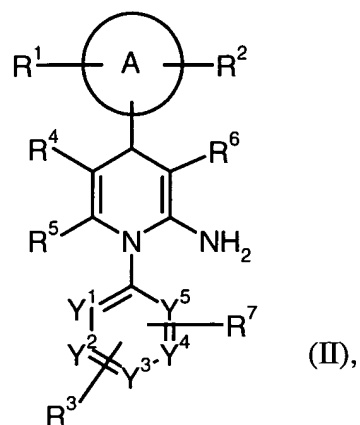
13. (Currently Amended) A compound ~~Compounds~~ of general formula (IA)



wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> have the meaning indicated in claim 1 ~~Claims 1 to 12~~ .

14. (Currently Amended) A Process ~~Processes~~ for synthesizing the compound ~~compounds~~ of general formula (I) or (IA), respectively, as defined in Claims 1 and ~~to~~ 13, wherein ~~characterized in that~~

[A] a compound ~~compounds~~ of the general formula (II)

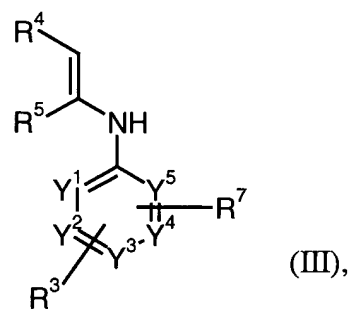


wherein  $R^1$  to  $R^7$ , A and  $Y^1$  to  $Y^5$  have the meaning indicated in claim 1 ~~Claims 1 to 13~~,

is ~~are~~ hydrolyzed with water,

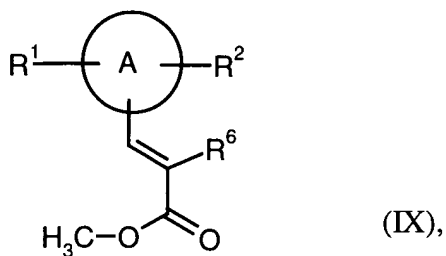
or

[B] a compound ~~compounds~~ of the general formula (III)



wherein  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^7$ , and  $Y^1$  to  $Y^5$  have the meaning indicated in claim 1 ~~Claims 1 to 13~~,

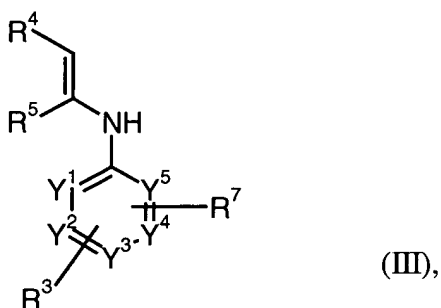
~~is~~ ~~are~~ reacted with a compound ~~compounds~~ of the general formula (IX)



wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^6$  and A have the meaning indicated in claim 1 ~~Claims 1 to 13~~ ,

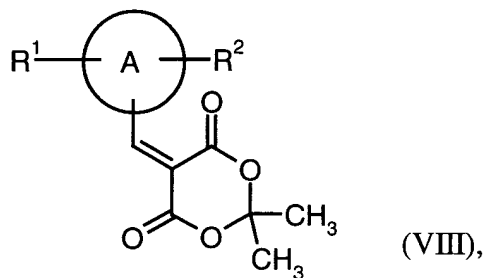
or

[C] a compound ~~compounds~~ of the general formula (III)



wherein  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^7$ , and  $Y^1$  to  $Y^5$  have the meaning indicated in claim 1 ~~Claims 1 to 13~~ ,

are reacted with a compound ~~compounds~~ of the general formula (VIII)



wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> have the meaning indicated in claim 1 ~~Claims 1 to 13~~ .

15. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical ~~The~~ composition containing at least one compound of general formula (I) or (IA), as defined in claim 1 or 13 ~~Claims 1 to 13~~, and a pharmacologically acceptable diluent.
16. (Cancelled)
17. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ process for the preparation of compositions according to Claim 15 ~~and 16~~ characterized in that the compounds of general formula (I) or (IA), as defined in claim 1 or 13 ~~Claims 1 to 13~~, together with customary auxiliaries are brought into a suitable application form.
18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method of treating ~~Process for controlling~~ chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, acute coronary syndrome, acute myocardial infarction or development of heart failure in humans and animals , comprising administering a ~~by administration of an~~ neutrophil elastase inhibitory amount of at least one compound according to any of Claims 1 ~~or to~~ 13.